

BEFORE THE
POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20268-0001

MAIL PROCESSING NETWORK RATIONALIZATION
SERVICE CHANGES, 2011

Docket No. N2012-1

**INSTITUTIONAL RESPONSE OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE
TO DOUGLAS F. CARLSON INTERROGATORY
REDIRECTED FROM WITNESS NERI
(DFC/USPS-T4—4)
(March 9, 2012)**

The United States Postal Service provides an institutional response to the above-identified interrogatory of Douglas F. Carlson dated February 24, 2012. The interrogatory has been redirected from witness Frank Neri (USPS-T-4) to the Postal Service for an institutional response. The interrogatory is stated verbatim and followed by the response.

Respectfully submitted,

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

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March 9, 2012

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DFC/USPS-T4-4. Please identify any planned changes or upgrades to Advanced Facer Cancellor System machines, including improvements in machine processing speed or the legibility of postmarks.

RESPONSE:

The Postal Service is in the process of deploying the AFCS200 technology, and it expects that the AFCS200 will have greater machine processing speeds than the legacy AFCS. The investment in AFCS200 equipment is based on an expected 15 percent operational throughput increase over the legacy AFCS.

In the short term, using the images captured in Real Mail Notification in the DC Metro area, the Postal Service is developing a quality monitoring solution to assess the quality of the cancelation marks applied by source AFCS nationwide. Plants with marks that do not meet minimally acceptable standards will receive feedback as a result of the quality monitoring initiative. In addition, Maintenance Policies and Programs has recently re-issued some guidance to the field on Ink Jet Cancellor maintenance.